



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 7:00pm
West Vancouver School Board Office

Present: C. Broady, Chair; N. Brown, Vice Chair; S. Donahue, P. Dorsman, D. Stevenson, Trustees; C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools; K. Martin, Associate Superintendent; S. Nosek, Associate Superintendent; K. Johnson, Assistant Secretary Treasurer; L. Hill, Director of Instruction; A. Campbell, Acting Director of Instruction; W. Hickey, Director of Facilities

Absent: J. Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer

A. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Broady called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are on the traditional territory of the Squamish Nation. She said we look forward to our continued work with the Nation to move education forward in our district. She then welcomed Assistant Secretary Treasurer Karen Johnson to the meeting and noted that Secretary Treasurer Julia Leiterman was unable to attend.

B. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

"G.U.A.R.D.S." – Sentinel Secondary

Principal Mike Finch and students Helen Z, Stephanie L, Christine L, Joey L, Renee Q, Taylor W, and Dayton B

Principal Finch thanked trustees for the opportunity to speak and said he was eager to pass the floor to students, who have been working for two years on the Sentinel GUARDS project.

Students explained that they wanted to improve the school culture at Sentinel by improving and updating the school code of conduct. They took their ideas to the School Planning Council, made up of staff, students, and parents, and said the synthesis of voices resulted in the development practical actions to make the code of conduct unique and easy to remember. Students reviewed for trustees the process by which they created new language, including reading Paul Tough, incorporating the First Peoples' Principals of Learning, and learning from the processes

undertaken by WVSS and Tupper Secondary. In the end, they landed on the acronym GUARDS: grit; understanding; action; respect; decisions; and spirit.

To promote and raise awareness of the new code of conduct, a GUARDS website and Instagram account were created and a contest held for students to create posters, videos, etc. to publicize the new acronym. Examples of various entries, including a video, were shown. All entries are posted on the website, accessible through the main school site.

Moving forward, the students want to embed the GUARDS values in all aspects of life at Sentinel. Next year, they plan to have a creative writing competition, led by teacher Pete Beetlestone, demonstrating how GUARDS values have been incorporated or demonstrated in students' lives. There are also plans for a TED talk, with various Sentinel alumni and community leaders speaking about the GUARDS values. Students concluded by telling trustees that they think they and the SPC have taken massive strides over the last year and there is confidence that all school community members understand the GUARDS values, and hope they continue to make a difference.

"IB Diploma at WVSS – Education for a Better World" – West Vancouver Secondary

Vice Principal Crystal Tanfara, teacher Joanne Pohn, and students Alice K, Marcus D, Lachlan R, and Elizabeth H

Vice Principal Tanfara began by sending regrets on behalf of Principal Rauh, who is attending an important PAC meeting this evening. She told trustees that in the short time that she has been vice principal at WVSS, she has come to better understand what an amazing school it is, and said her interactions with International Baccalaureate students have wowed her. She then passed the floor to IB Coordinator Joanne Pohn, who gave a brief history of the IB program globally and locally, noting that the first three IB diploma students at WVSS graduated in 1988 and the program has grown to 55 students in the program this year (almost 20% of the graduating class).

The IB Diploma is recognized as the most rigorous program for high school students, and all courses are taught in alignment with a common philosophy and a global perspective, promoting the qualities of the IB learner profile. The diploma requires six academics, two years of language, a 4000 word research essay, completion of the critical thinking course Theory of Knowledge, and cultivates an international mindset and encourages students to engage with global issues and challenges.

Students agreed that the program was extremely demanding, especially as they also participate in extra-curricular volunteer work or part time employment, but said they enjoyed the shared experiences with like-minded people. The program immerses them in a competitive environment, but builds community and they all support each other. Students each told trustees what they were learning in their individual classes and what their research essay topics are, and each said that they are learning to think critically and challenge assumptions. Extra-curricular activities in which they participate include volunteering at the Vancouver Aquarium and the West Van Community Centre, participating in martial arts, choir, art, and piano, as well as coding clubs and the WV Streamkeepers. Students all expressed the value of stretching their limits, learning new skill sets, and finding satisfaction in the little things as they push themselves and each other.

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#1379	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting October 16, 2018 be adopted.	<u>Carried.</u>
-------	--	------------------------

D. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)

Rob Inman – West Vancouver resident and coach

- said he was very impressed listening to the IB students and wondered how much extra training is required for IB teachers

The Chair redirected to WVTA Vice President Spencer Capier, who teaches Theory of Knowledge to IB Diploma students at WVSS. Mr Capier said that IB requires teachers to participate in extra training and seminars, and the learning curve can be steep for teachers initially as well. The emphasis on writing does equate to an increased marking load, but he said the pay off when he sees students challenged and thriving is worth it.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting September 18, 2018

#1380	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting September 18, 2018 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
-------	--	------------------------

- General Record October 16, 2018

#1381	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the General Record, October 16, 2018 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
-------	---	------------------------

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chair asked for an update on any classes over 30 in the district.

Associate Superintendent Martin reported that WVSS still has two Calculus 12 classes with 31 students, but that those numbers are expected to drop after interim reports.

The Vice Chair said that she was very impressed after the meeting last month with Ms Yurkowski's presentation about the Future Cities initiative. She said that with 19 teachers across the district now participating with their classes, she would like to see the Board do everything they can to support the growth of this program.

G. BOARD BUSINESS

1. Retrospective on Board's Term

Carolyn Broady, Board Chair

Report from the Chair, October 2018:

The past four years feel like they have flown by in the blink of an eye. As I reflect back over the term, I'm very proud of the work this Board has done to support student success in our district and to build strong relationships with members of our community, our partner groups, our staff, and most importantly, our students.

At the beginning of the new term in January 2015, the new Board spent time in orientation sessions with all our departments to help us better understand how the district works and what the strategic priorities are in each area. We also attended orientation sessions put on by the BC School Trustees Association which helped us begin to work as a team, and to define and understand what governance means in West Vancouver Schools. Our other major task in the first few months as a Board was to update our strategic plan, which outlined our vision for the four-year term. We identified and focused on the values that guided our work: excellence, inclusiveness, accountability, authenticity, innovation, community engagement, and happiness. From these, the four key areas were developed to guide our strategic plan: Educational Excellence; Visionary Governance; Thoughtful Transitions; and Community Evolution, with the overarching theme of a continued and sustained focus on educational excellence, ensuring that the high achievement levels for which West Vancouver Schools are known are maintained, while we continually search for opportunities for innovative programs and practices.

Over the term, we committed ourselves to community connections as we built and strengthened our relationships. We had the opportunity to meet with the former Minister of Education, West Vancouver, Bowen Island and Lions Bay Mayors and/or Councils, the North Vancouver Board of Education, MLAs Ralph Sultan and Jordan Sturdy, and MP Pamela Goldsmith Jones. We held a number of joint meetings with the Police Board as well as liaison meetings with West Vancouver DPAC, the West Vancouver Administrators Association, and the West Vancouver Teachers Association. We also had two joint meetings with the Board Chairs, Superintendents and Secretary Treasurers of North Vancouver, West Vancouver, and Sea to Sky school districts, hosting our four shared MLAs to discuss funding concerns, to express support for increased youth mental health facilities on the North Shore, and to apprise them of how they can help support boards' work.

Our district has continued to champion unique programming opportunities and new methods of reporting and assessment as the new curriculum from Kindergarten to grade 9 was fully implemented. We are seeing this work extended now as the process of implementing the graduation program for grades 10-12 students continues. Over our term we created an Audit Committee, and welcomed the robot MILO into our schools to help support students on the autism spectrum. We had an increased focus on physical literacy in primary grades; great success in our robotics program; and oversaw the expansion of the reformatted hockey academy program. I was thrilled earlier this month to visit the new Environmental Science class at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans site, and I'm very excited about the new and innovative programming taking place in classrooms around the district from urban agriculture and outdoor learning, to the Hour of Code and the use of Google Classroom. These new initiatives were on top of all the annual events that highlight our schools, staff, and students,

such as the Lighthouse Festival; the elementary district track meet; various graduation and transition ceremonies; new academies; and the numerous achievements of our athletes and sports teams. We are, as always, particularly proud of the work that our students do in the classroom.

Over the past two years, the Board's focus has been on implementation of the Supreme Court of Canada ruling on class size and composition. The decision has resulted in smaller class sizes from Kindergarten to grade 3, and increased supports in non-enrolling areas, including counselling and teacher-librarian allocations. In addition to Ministry-provided special funding, the Board has further allocated operating grant money to ensure that there are additional teachers and education assistants in place to help with classrooms identified as complex or requiring extra support. We will continue to monitor this throughout this school year and hope that the updated funding model, which is to be released in early 2019, will allow local boards more autonomy to deliver programming that best benefits our students and our educators. It is our hope that the 2019 round of negotiations with the BCTF are productive and results in a fair contract for teachers, while ensuring local boards of education have the ability to best serve their students. I would like to see a commitment by the new board to support the WVTA; advocating for harmonization of salaries so that we can ensure that our teachers are compensated at the same levels as their colleagues across Metro. Finally, it is important that the next board continue to advocate for long-term, sustainable, and predictable funding from the provincial government to ensure we have the ability to best serve our students.

I spoke this past opening day about how it takes a village to raise a child, and I believe that here in WV Schools we have one of the finest villages, one which continually focusses on the needs of the students in our care. And to that end I would like to extend my personal thanks to each member of our Board - Dave Stevenson, Pieter Dorsman, Nicole Brown, and Sheelah Donahue - for your continued leadership and dedication to the district; and on behalf of the board, we'd like to acknowledge the strong working relationships we have with our partner groups: DPAC, WVAA, WVTA, and the WVMEA; and thank you, everyone for your continued support and hard work you do on behalf of our students. We would also like to extend a special thank you to our Superintendent Chris Kennedy, Associate Superintendents Sean Nosek and Kim Martin, Secretary Treasurer Julia Leiterman, and our Directors. It is your dedication to our district and your commitment to excellence that helps us achieve our goals. It is because of each of you that West Vancouver Schools continues to be the premier place of learning.

2. Enrolment Update

Kim Martin, Associate Superintendent

Associate Superintendent Martin presented the overall student enrolment figures as reported to the Ministry of Education as of September 28, 2018, noting that they have not yet received final approval. This year's regular enrolment headcount is 6797, with 537 international students, for a total head count of 7334. That is down slightly from last year's total headcount of 7343, but is not cause for concern and we are in good shape for this year and next. We continue to have strong numbers in academy and specialty programs, have an increase in the number of Indigenous learners, and our ELL enrolment is as anticipated.

This year, we are fully compliant with class size limits at elementary, whereas last year there were seven primary classes in Early French Immersion that were out-of-compliance. As mentioned earlier in the meeting, there are two Calculus 12 classes at WVSS with 31 students in each. The teacher, Mr Nicholson, has been advised of his remedy rights and will

Regular Minutes October 16, 2018

choose an option and work with Principal Rauh to receive it. If numbers do not drop in November, he will be entitled to a remedy for that month as well.

Non-enrolling ratios were reviewed and we are in an excellent position, with counselling ratios exceeded by 5 FTE; learning assistance, special education resource, and ELL by 6 FTE, and teacher-librarians by .2 FTE.

3. Digital Overview

Sean Nosek, Associate Superintendent, and Tyler Soron, Manager of Information Technology

Associate Superintendent Nosek formally introduced Tyler Soron, the new manager of information technology, who was hired after an extensive search, and said he has made a fantastic impact in the short time he has been here. Associate Superintendent Nosek said digital access is a pillar of our district, and that he, Mr Soron, and the IT department are the caretakers of that pillar. As the board's four-year term aligns with Mr Nosek's time in the district, he thought it would be appropriate to take a look back, as well as a look forward.

Starting with the 2014-2015 school year, the Associate Superintendent reviewed the scope of what has happened in terms of software and infrastructure in the last four years. West Vancouver was one of the first NGN districts in the province, improving internet accessibility and speed, and classroom modernization put projectors etc. in all classrooms from K – 12. This allowed widespread uptake of the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative, something which is now commonplace in most schools. This has allowed ever-increasing use of G-Suite, in particular Google Classroom, as well as programs and resources including Math IXL, Discovery Education, and MyBluePrint. West Vancouver Schools was an early adopter of e-portfolio program FreshGrade, which is now used in all elementary schools, as well as various coding initiatives, such as Coding Quest, now in its third year in the district. During that time, the district underwent a rebranding, and the public website, as well as all school websites were updated and refreshed. MyEducationBC was introduced as the new province-wide student information system, replacing BCeSIS, and training was a huge undertaking. MyEd is now used for attendance, scheduling, timetabling, reporting, and IEPs. An online form solution, Vivos, was also piloted for online registration, as well as other district-based forms, and is now being used in several other districts in the province. There is also a teacher device arrangement in place, with the second wave of device replacement just completed. Virtual reality is the most recent addition to the district's ever-shifting digital landscape, and is an exciting and expanding resource. With all these opportunities, the district's infrastructure needs to be robust and able to handle the increasing demands put upon it.

Mr Soron then spoke to trustees to give them the 'look forward'. He began by thanking them for the opportunity to be here, and although he comes from a non-profit background in Alberta, said he is new to the education sector. At one time, he was planning to become a teacher, and said this role is the perfect hybrid of his interests. He said he enjoys work most when he is able to see the impact of technology upon people and that West Vancouver Schools is on a good trajectory, one for which he wants to keep the momentum going.

Some of the challenges that he has identified since he arrived are our aging infrastructure, the diversity and quantity of devices on our network, and the risk associated with the internet of things. He said that he was impressed with the volume of what his predecessor,

Helen Setsikas, handled and noted that David Bowerman, a long-time member of the IT staff, has been a wealth of knowledge dealing with infrastructure,

Mr Soron wants the IT department to be seen as a support for staff and a place of knowledge, and wants to ensure that they are reactive to users. He has recently simplified the ticket/support system and created a new service desk, and is looking for feedback as it is rolled out. He is working to create a roadmap/plan for the future and to find synergies with the facilities department during various projects. He said it is important to be proactive when it comes to infrastructure, rather than reactive, but is not interested in rushing. It was noted that IBM did some work with the district last year and came up with a proposal for our infrastructure moving forward, but Mr Soron would like to slow down and do due diligence. He said he wants to spend time learning and listening to understand what people need, because IT should be a means to an end. The link with learning and education provides a clear, transparent objective, but said that we need to strike a balance. He would like to build a foundation for the future, rather than implement the entire proposal and effectively “check off” an item on a to-do list.

Mr Soron concluded by saying he likes working for leadership that sees the transformative power of technology, but wants to make budgetary decisions with the best interests of students at the forefront.

Trustees thanked Mr Soron for his presentation and it was agreed that the incoming board should consider including infrastructure/disaster recovery/business continuity in the next strategic plan.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Human Resources Committee Meeting – October 2, 2018

Committee Chair Brown briefly reviewed the minutes, highlighting good TTOC numbers and strong uptake of the mentorship program with the WVTA. She encouraged people to read the minutes when they are posted on the district website the day after the board meeting. The flu shot clinic will be held on October 18th at ILC and all employees are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.

#1382	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting held October 2, 2018 be received.	<u>Carried.</u>
-------	--	------------------------

2. Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting – October 9, 2018

Trustee Dorsman, who chaired the meeting, briefly reviewed the minutes and publically welcomed Dmitri Eliasov, the new manager of facilities. It was noted that minor remediation work with HVAC systems and venting has been undertaken in response to radon testing results at two sites. He concluded by saying that once again, the committee was impressed by the volume and scope of work undertaken by the facilities during the summer months – their busiest time of year.

The Chair asked the Director of Facilities to extend thanks on behalf of the Board to his staff, saying trustees are consistently impressed by their professionalism and pride in their work.

#1383	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting held October 9, 2018 be received.	<u>Carried.</u>
--------------	---	------------------------

I. FOR INFORMATION

The Chair noted that housekeeping changes have been made to administrative procedures AP 300 – Student Registration, Enrolment and Placement and AP 370 – Student Use of Mobile Devices, and that there are two new administrative procedures AP 310 – Restraint and Seclusion and AP 413 – Impairing Substances in the Workplace.

All APs have been posted on the public district website.

J. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of the correspondence from the past month is posted online at <http://westvancouver.schools.ca/board-correspondence>

K. TRUSTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

BCPSEA Support Staff Conference Call BCSTA Metro Meeting Chamber Luncheon Meeting with BC Ferries’ CEO Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Human Resources Committee Meeting Liaison Meeting with MLAs, Chairs, Superintendents and S-T of SD 44, 45 & 48 Ted X Youth West Vancouver WV Civic Reception WV DPAC Meet and Greet WV DPAC Meeting WV DPAC Welcoming Luncheon	WV Community Foundation Olympic Event for Mollie Jepson Visits to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eagle Harbour Montessori • STEM Class at Rockridge • Environmental Ed Program at the DFO Site • Hollyburn Elementary Primary Classrooms • FAST at the WV Aquatic Centre • Ridgeview Grade 7 Classroom
---	--

L. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

Rob Inman – West Vancouver resident and coach

- through the Chair to Associate Superintendent Nosek, asked where in the budget the district will be able to find the monies to deal with the aging infrastructure referred to by Mr Soron. Will there be any additional funding from the Ministry?

The Associate Superintendent replied that infrastructure issues are dealt with by the IT department in the way they prioritize their budget items. There is some overlap with capital and facilities work and by combining projects, some IT projects and upgrades can take place while walls are open etc.

- Mr Inman continued to say that he just wanted to comment on the last four years in the district under this board
- feels that our district is one of a kind under these trustees and the leadership of Superintendent Kennedy and his staff and said our students are continually impressive
- said as a West Vancouver resident and tax payer, feels that this board has done a very good job during their term and that we are lucky to have them

The Chair thanked Mr Inman for his kind comments and agreed that we are very lucky in this district.

Danielle Katerberg – Chair, WV DPAC

- on behalf of the parents of West Vancouver, wanted to acknowledge and thank trustees for their service during the last four years
- said the district's partnership with parents is valued and appreciated

The Chair thanked Ms Katerberg for her comments and said that everyone should be proud of the strong relationship between district staff and parents.

Renee Willock – President, WVTA

- thanked the trustees for their service during the last term and on behalf of the executive, said they appreciate the good relationship between the Board and the WVTA
- said she and Mr Capier are both new in their roles this year, but are very aware of the value of the transparent relationship the WVTA has with trustees and district staff

The Chair thanked Mrs Willock and said she is aware of how fortunate the Board is to have a strong working relationship with the TA. She said she is proud to discuss West Van School's relationships with colleagues from around the province and said they are amazed by the strength of them.

M. ADJOURNMENT

8:31 pm

BOARD CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER